



NORTH WALSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the report of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1969

MEMBERS OF THE NORTH WALSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

as at 31ST DECEMBER, 1969

Chairman	Mr. J.T.E. Jones	*
Vice-Chairman	Mr. C.A. Pitt Steele	*
	Mr. F.C. Bailey	+
	Mr. R.C. Fiske	
	Mr. E.W. Harmer	+
	Mr. C.G. Hipperson	+
	Mr. H. Linford	+
	Mr. J.E. Masters	+
	Mr. D.F. Norton	+
	Mr. H.J.W. Osborne	+
	Mr. A.J. Powles	+
	Mrs. M.B. Prosser	+
	Mr. N. Stanley	+

+ Member of the Public Health Committee

* Ex-Officio member of the Public Health Committee

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER & RATING OFFICER

MR. R. V. NASH

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. G.R. Holtby, M.D., B.S., M.R.S.C., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

Mr. C.H. Carr, Cert. S.I.E.J.B.

Deputy Surveyor & Asst. Public Health Inspector

Mr. A.E. Nicholson, A.M.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.

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NORTH WALSHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
New Road,
North Walsham.

To the Chairman and members of the
North Walsham Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1969. The Registrar General estimates the mid-year population as 5,820 compared with 5,720 last year. There were 76 live births and 88 deaths giving a natural decrease of 12. There was thus a movement into the district of 112 people.

The birth rate was 15.7 per thousand population and the death rate 11.0 per thousand. The infant mortality rate (deaths under one year per thousand total live births) was 13.0 and the neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per thousand total live births) was nil.

There were no maternal deaths associated with child birth.

There has always been a close affinity between agriculture and medicine but although there has been affinity there has been little link. A link should certainly be forged, for health is undoubtedly dependent on nutrition, and medicine should by definition be concerned with health, although too often it seems more concerned with treatment than with prevention.

Previous introductions to this report have made comments about nutrition and this could be dealt with in more detail, but it is proposed on this occasion, to comment on some diseases common to man and animals. This, of course, impinges on farm safety, a subject on which medicine should be always ready to give advice.

In these days of computers and space travel, man's stupendous achievements in the technical field are very obvious and very wonderful, although his limitations in some other fields such as, for example, international relationships, are equally remarkable.

Unfortunately an increasingly urban civilization easily loses sight of man's relationship to other animals. We, in this part of the country, being closer to basic realities, are less likely to forget our similarities to them, which are as striking as our enormous superiority.

Nevertheless it sometimes comes as a surprise that the creature which can build aeroplanes, write symphonies and look before and after, has many of the same ailments as other animals. The Public Health Service is perhaps as close as any other branch of medicine to the Veterinary Profession yet it was only recently that I was reminded that dogs, as well as man, can suffer from diabetes.

Of course no dog can realise this or work out any treatment. We alone have insight, ~~practically~~ alone the ability to form abstract concepts by which problems are solved, and alone the need to stretch out in faith beyond creation.

Some of the germs which can pass from animals to man (and also in the reverse direction) are members of the Salmonella or food poisoning group. Salmonella typhi and S. paratyphi, causing typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, are fortunately rare, but the commonest cause of food poisoning in man is called, confusingly, S. typhi-murium. Man is infected frequently by his fellows but this and several other strains are common to man and cattle, pigs, poultry, mice, etc.,. Unfortunately a case may excrete the germ for a long time after clinical recovery and treatment is of little value in preventing this excretion.

Tetanus germs are found in the gut of some animals including the horse, thus heavily manured soil may contain them and in the spore form they can remain dormant in the soil for a long time but give rise to tetanus in a human, particularly if a deep penetrating wound is infected. Active immunisation will protect against tetanus, a primary course of three injections, followed by two "boosters" at five to ten year intervals, is satisfactory. Most children now receive these in babyhood and at school, but some adults are unprotected.

Rats are pests in several ways. A not very common but very unpleasant disease which they spread is Weil's disease or leptospirosis. They do not seem to be seriously affected themselves but older animals in particular may become carriers and pass the germ in the urine. The germ can only live in damp and alkaline conditions (salt water and acid solutions will kill it) but can enter the human body through cuts and scratches and through the mucus membranes of the eye and nose. There is thus a danger in bathing in rat infested stagnant water.

Brucellosis, or infection with brucella germs, causes infectious abortion in cattle and undulant fever in man. While Veterinary Surgeons are especially at risk, anyone who drinks raw milk may become infected. Pasteurisation renders it safe but on a farm some milk may not be sent for pasteurisation but may be drunk by the family and by employees.

Rabies is a deadly disease which is a scourge in some parts of the Continent. We have been spared from it in the past largely by our quarantine regulations for imported animals.

Anthrax is uncommon in man but may be acquired from the carcase of an infected animal, from hides and from bone meal used in horticulture.

Ringworm may be acquired from animals but it is not usually very serious.

Shell fish can be dangerous because they can concentrate typhoid organisms in a sewage outfall.

Papula urticaria, or heat spots, are more likely to be due to insects such as fleas, for example from domestic pets, than from eating an excess of strawberries or plums. There may not be much sign of the insect bites visible as the condition results from allergy to previous bites.

Some other insects, in particular flies, can of course, spread disease because excrement and human food are alike attractive to them and they alight on one and then on the other carrying germs with them.

These are only a few of the diseases acquired from animals which are much commoner in tropical areas.

For several years now this report has mentioned the serious risks run by smokers, particularly cigarette smokers. That this year they have not been mentioned first does not mean that cigarettes are not a prime cause of death and disability, in fact they certainly are.

Perhaps a few recent quotations will suffice on this occasion, for example - the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service -

"The proposition that cigarette smoking is hazardous to human health is no longer controversial."

and the Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health and Social Security -

"Cigarette smoking is believed to be responsible for nine out of ten lung cancer deaths, three out of four deaths due to chronic bronchitis and one out of four deaths due to coronary heart disease."

It is, in my opinion, wrong for anyone to have anything to do with the encouragement of young people to smoke, by example or precept, but the problem should not be approached in an entirely negative way. Many fine intelligent people smoke. Most wish that they did not do so but cannot stop, or find it difficult to stop. For them any reduction in the numbers smoked is beneficial and a change to a pipe or cigars an advantage.

Hypothermia, or cold injury, is still a possible hazard for some elderly people during the winter. The situation is summarised in the official publication "Health Trends", for February, 1970 -

"The most hopeful approach to the problem lies in prevention and early recognition. Factors of risk include great age, isolation, malnutrition, thin build, cold surroundings and conditions reducing or abolishing muscular activity."

I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest and the Staff of the Department for their loyalty and conscientious work. As mentioned last year, these expressions are not mere formalities.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant
G.R. HOLTBY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area - 4,256 acres. The Urban District consists of the town of North Walsham with a surrounding district entirely rural in character which includes two small hamlets, namely Spa Common and White Horse Common. The main industries of the town are vehicle container-body building and food canning, together with light engineering works, a plastics factory and a laundry.

Educational facilities consist of the Paston Grammar School, the Girls' High School together with a Secondary Modern School, a Junior School and two Primary Infant Schools.

The town is probably one of the most conveniently situated market towns in Norfolk and by virtue of its fine position, it is extremely healthy. The subsoil is of sand and gravel and the town receives the bracing air from the sea which is close at hand.

Population - the Registrar General estimates the population for mid-year 1969 to be 5,820.

Number of Inhabited Houses - from the rate book, the number of inhabited houses in the district at the 1st April, 1970 was 2296 which included 615 Council houses.

The rateable value was £238,906 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £970.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	4,256	
Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate)	5,820	
No. of houses in the rate book as at 1.4.70.	2,296	
Rateable Value of all premises as at 1.4.70.	£238,906.	
Sum represented by a penny rate as at 1.4.70.	£970.	
	<u>North Walsham</u>	<u>England</u>
	<u>U.D.</u>	<u>& Wales</u>
Live births	76	
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	13.1	16.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	12.0	8.0
Still births	2	
Still births rate per 1,000 live and still births	26.0	13.0
Total live and still births	78	
Infant deaths	1	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total	13.0	18.0
" " " " " " " - legitimate	15.0	17.0
" " " " " " " - illegitimate	-	25.0
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)	-	
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	-	
Peri-natal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	26.0	23.0
Maternal deaths (including abortions)	-	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	
Deaths (all ages)	88	
General Death Rate	15.1	11.9

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE & INFANT MORTALITY RATE

BIRTHS

	<u>ENGLAND & WALES</u>	<u>NORTH WALSHAM</u>
Live births (per 1,000 population)	16.3	15.7
Still births (per 1,000 total births)	13.0	26.0

DEATHS

Deaths (per 1,000 population)	11.9	11.0
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	18.0	13.0

Incidence of Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during last 5 years

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	2	-	-	11
Measles	7	63	13	32	10
Whooping Cough	-	-	--	11	-
Pneumonia	-	--	1	1	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	4
Dysentery (Sonne)	1	54	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2	-	-	-
	9	121	14	44	26

Measles - 10 cases of measles were notified during the year compared with 32 cases last year. Immunisation against this complaint is now readily available and there is no doubt that it is effective in reducing the incidence of the disease which in an unmodified form is frequently associated with severe complications particularly those involving the ears and the chest as well as with encephalitis. It should also be emphasised that the vaccine now in use is a safe vaccine. Parents should be encouraged to arrange for their children to be immunised either by doctors from the Public Health Department or by general practitioners.

Whooping Cough - no cases were notified compared with 11 last year. The complaint is now seldom a serious one and immunisation must be responsible for this improved situation. Children with a history of repeated convulsions however should not be given whooping cough immunisation although they can be immunised against diphtheria and tetanus.

Scarlet Fever - 11 cases were notified compared with nil last year. Whilst scarlet fever itself is seldom a dangerous disease in this country, the germ which causes it is the haemolytic streptococcus and cannot be ignored, as both rheumatic fever and kidney disease can result from an infection which may be associated with a rash as in scarlet fever, but may merely cause a severe sore throat.

Food Poisoning - 1 case of this complaint was notified during the year as compared with nil last year.

Infective Jaundice - 4 cases were notified compared with nil last year and nil the year before. This complaint can be a most debilitating one and largely because of the long incubation period of about a month, it is very difficult to trace the sources of any particular case.

Immunisation Schedule

The schedule of immunisation in Child and Health Clinics and Schools is as follows :-

Immunisation against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus (the triple injection) at 4 months, 6 months and 1 year. Poliomyelitis vaccine is given by mouth at the same time as these injections. The increased spacing of injections eliminates the need to give a boosting injection at 18 months to 2 years while retaining the same efficacy.

We carry out smallpox vaccination in the second year of life and measles vaccination after the first birthday. "Booster" injections against diphtheria and tetanus with poliomyelitis immunisation by mouth are given at school entry and another tetanus injection and polio immunisation on leaving school.

Immunisation against tuberculosis or B.C.G. vaccination is carried out, after testing whether the individual child requires it, for third-year pupils at Secondary Schools.

INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Enteritis & other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, intestine	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, prostate	2	-	2
Leukaemia	-	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	4	6
Meningitis	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous system etc.	3	-	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	2	2
Hypertensive Disease	2	1	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	10	6	16
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	1	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	3	5	8
Other Diseases of Circulatory Systems	1	2	3
Pneumonia	5	7	12
Bronchitis & Emphysema	3	-	3
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1	2
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	-	3	3
Symptoms & ill defined conditions	-	3	3
	<hr/>		
<u>Total</u>	40	48	88
	<hr/>		

DEATHS FROM CANCER AND TOTAL DEATHS

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
No. of deaths from cancer	12	15	12	11	10	20
No. of deaths from all causes	70	90	63	62	82	88
% of total deaths due to cancer	17.1	16.6	19.0	17.7	12.2	22.7

Cancer Deaths During last Six Years

Year	Male			Female		
	Total deaths all causes	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers	Total deaths all causes	Lung Cancer	Other Cancers
1969	40	2	6	48	1	11
1968	43	6	2	39	-	2
1967	33	1	2	29	2	6
1966	29	2	5	34	1	4
1965	52	4	5	38	-	6
1964	36	3	1	34	3	5

Deaths from Coronary Diseases - Angina - Ischaemic Heart Disease

	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
No. of deaths from coronary diseases	15	19	13	14	23	27
No. of deaths - all causes	70	90	63	62	82	88
% of total deaths due to coronary disease	21.4	21.1	20.6	22.5	28.0	22.7

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR
1969 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Birth Rate per</u> <u>1,000 population</u>		<u>Death Rate per</u> <u>1,000 population</u>		<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> <u>per 1,000 population</u>	
	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>North Walsham</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>North Walsham</u> <u>U.D.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>	<u>North Walsham</u> <u>U.D.</u>
1969	16.3	15.7	11.9	11.0	18.0	13.0
1968	16.9	19.1	11.9	10.3	18.0	15.8
1967	17.2	15.64	11.2	8.85	18.3	11.02
1966	17.7	15.74	11.7	8.62	19.0	27.39
1965	18.1	19.16	11.5	12.61.	19.0	45.4
1964	18.5	16.33	11.3	10.6	20.9	13.7
1963	18.2	12.9	12.2	13.3	20.9	46.0
1962	18.0	13.7	11.9	12.0	21.4	NIL
1961	17.4	13.6	12.0	16.2	21.6	NIL
1960	17.1	14.3	11.5	12.5	21.7	NIL

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The North Walsham Urban District is included with Smallburgh Rural District and Blofield and Flegg Rural District to form No. 1 Area of Norfolk County Council for the purpose of carrying out duties for which the County Health Authority has accepted responsibility under the National Health Services Act, 1946. These include the care of mothers and young children, Midwifery Service, Health Visiting Service, Home Nursing Service, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of illness, Care and After-Care, Domestic Health Service and Mental Health Service. Some of these services, along with the School Health Service in the area, are the responsibility of the Area Medical Officer who also acts as Medical Officer of Health to the three County Districts comprising No. 1 Area, referred to above.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

Local Health Services under Part III

Home Nursing. Midwifery and Health Visiting

These are attended by one Health Visitor and two District Nurses.

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Child Health Clinic | - | Dental Clinic, North Walsham Secondary Modern School, Spenser Avenue.
(second Thursday each month) |
| Dental Clinic | - | North Walsham Secondary Modern School
(six sessions weekly) |
| Speech Clinic | - | North Walsham Secondary Modern School
(one session weekly) |

General Welfare Services

These services continue to be administered centrally from the Local Health Office, Aspland Road, Norwich. Mr. C.J. Gallant is the Area Welfare Officer and has a team of three Social Welfare Officers to assist him. The North Walsham Office has been maintained as a contact point for the public and is now located at 18 King's Arms Street, North Walsham, which is nearer the centre of the town than the office was previously. The Welfare Officers deal with the admission of aged persons to County Homes for the Elderly, either on a short term or a long term basis and besides dealing with admissions to mental hospitals, they are responsible for the care of the mentally sub-normal living in the community and also of the patients discharged from or on leave from mental hospitals.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service is administered from the Area Local Health Office at Aspland Road, Norwich and all applications for help under this service are addressed to the Area Welfare Officer at that office. The work of the Home Helps in the area is now supervised by a lady Assistant Home Help Organiser and this person is responsible for recruiting, weekly programme planning and case visiting.

Meals on Wheels

This service continues to function well and 24 meals are being served on two days each week.

Ambulance Facilities

The County Ambulance Service is operated by the County Council through the agency of the Norfolk St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society Joint Ambulance Committee.

Vaccination and Immunisation

These are carried out by the General Medical Practitioners and by Assistant County Medical Officers.

Laboratory Facilities

Facilities for laboratory investigations are to be had at the Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47)

(Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention).

No action was necessary during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Mortality Rates for 1969:-

Pulmonary Tuberculosis - NIL
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis - NIL

Notification of New Cases of Tuberculosis, 1969:-

One new case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified

One case of pulmonary tuberculosis was added to the register as a transfer into the district

NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON REGISTER AT 31.12.69.

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
31st December, 1969	12	13	2	1	14	14
" " 1968	11	12	2	1	13	13
" " 1967	13	12	2	1	15	13
" " 1966	12	11	2	1	14	12
" " 1965	12	11	3	1	15	12
" " 1964	11	10	3	1	14	11
" " 1963	13	11	3	4	16	15
" " 1962	14	10	3	4	17	14
" " 1961	12	9	3	4	15	13
" " 1960	11	2	9	4	20	6

B.C.G. VACCINATION IN AREA NO.1.

This is offered to all 13 year old school children. 86% parents gave their consent, 12% refused consent and 2% did not return forms.

The findings during the year were as follows :-

Total number eligible	-	1366
" " tested	-	1033
" " positive	-	49
Tuberculin Index	-	5%
Total number vaccinated	-	981

IMMUNISATION SCHEMES

The following tables show the work done by the general practitioners and the Assistant County Medical Officer in 1969.

Table 1 - Completed Primary Courses

<u>Type of Vaccine</u>	<u>Year of birth</u>					others under 16	Total
	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962/5		
Triple	101	402	15	5	2	-	526
Diph/Tet.	-	1	-	-	11	-	12
Tetanus	1	-	1	1	19	-	22
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio (Oral)	94	443	20	10	23	2	592
Measles	-	72	133	79	189	63	536

Table 2 - Reinforcing Doses

Triple (DTP)	-	127	234	23	83	4	471
Diph/Tet.	-	13	40	5	745	62	865
Diph/Pertussis	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tetanus	-	2	1	1	9	398	411
Polio (Oral)	-	101	102	9	829	351	1392

8.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Age when vaccinated	0-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 years	Total
Primary Vaccination	2	-	1	8	269	212	15	507
Re-vaccination	-	-	-	-	1	7	52	60

WATER SUPPLY

Source - all mains water is pumped from underground workings in chalk deposits at the southern end of the town. It is passed through Candy filters for the removal of iron and chlorination is carried out giving a residual of 0.2 parts per million. The water is then stored in two towers before distribution. Some isolated properties in the outlying parts of the district are supplied by wells.

The mains supply is augmented when necessary by the link watermain from Felmingham and a 3" diameter watermain from the Smallburgh Rural District serves approximately twelve properties in the Little London area.

Water supplied during the year

Own Sources, underground: Total pumped 64,893,000 gallons

Bulk Supplies taken: 22,632,000 gallons

Total supplied, all sources 87,525,000

Metered Supplies 26,574,000

Unmetered Supplies 60,951,000

Unmetered supplies per head of resident population = 29.2 galls. per day.

Proposed New Source - under the direction of the County Public Health Engineering Department, design drawings were completed during the year but difficulties arose in the purchase of the land required for the treatment works.

New Mains - during the year mains were laid to serve a new housing development at Northfield Road and an existing ring main was diverted because of new housing development. All of this work was carried out under the direction of the County Public Health Engineer.

Water Sampling - regular sampling of supplies within the district was carried out for the purposes of bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service. These were reported upon as follows:-

Treated water in supply	=	33 samples
Raw water (untreated) at source	=	10 "
Felmingham Link Main	=	11 "
Little London (supply for Smallburgh R.D.C.)	=	4 "
Private borehole (new)	=	1 "
Shallow wells	=	7 "
		<hr/>
Total	=	66
		<hr/>

Results of chemical analysis in parts per million

Ammoniacal Nitrogen	- neg. trace.	Calcium as Ca	- 100
Alkaloid Nitrogen	- 0.01	Magnesium as Mg	- 16
Nitrate Nitrogen	- Nil	Sodium as Na	- 34
Nitrite Nitrogen	- Nil	Carbonate as CO_3	- 138
Chlorion as Cl	- 50	Chloride as Cl	- 50
Permanganate Value	- 0.42	Sulphate as SO_4	- 65
Hardness as CaCO_3		Nitrate as NO_3	- Nil
Total	- 315	Iron as Fe	- 1.8
Carbonate (temporary)	- 230	Fluorine as F	- 0.25
Non-carbonate(permanent)	- 85	Silica as SiO_2	- 12
Alkalinity as CaCO_3	- 230		
Free Carbon Dioxide	- 22		
Total solids (at 180°C)	- 430		
Iron (total)	- 1.8		
Metals in solution	- Nil		

pH 7.4

Opinion "This water is of very good organic quality and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The analysis as a whole differs only in minor details from that of the previous year. Provided the iron is removed by suitable treatment, this water should then be suitable for distribution as a public supply."

The mains water supply was satisfactory in quality during the year but it was necessary to impose restrictions on the use of hosepipes from the 25th July, 1969 to 28th August when a prolonged period of dry weather coincided with the peak industrial demand for water.

Water Statistics

Plumbo-Solvent Action	None
No. of dwellings supplied (direct to houses)	2270
No. supplied by standpipe	25 (estimated)
No. of population supplied by standpipe	60 (")
Total quantity of water supplied during 1969	87,525,000 gallons
Daily average of water supplied	239,794 gallons
Quantity of water supplied to Norfolk Canneries	13,759,000 "
Quantity of other metered supplies	12,815,000 "

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewage disposal works operated satisfactorily during the year and the final effluent field tests (using the permanganate method of testing) indicated a good effluent.

The East Suffolk and Norfolk River Authority regularly sampled the final effluent and the majority of these samples were favourably commented upon.

From April, the facilities of the County Council's Laboratory at Attleborough became available for the analysis of sewage. It was decided to submit samples of sewage on a "progressive" basis from the local canning factory to the sewage works in order to ascertain if septicity occurred at any particular point and thus give rise to sewer smells. No trace of septicity was found along the sewer route.

"Spot" samples were also taken at the canning factory to establish B O D and suspended solids values and regular details of these were also received from the public analyst as per the Council's agreement with the canning factory.

Chlorination of the sewers was continuously carried out and tests taken at the inlet works to establish any chlorine content in the incoming sewage.

The chlorine injector plant at Norwich Road gave cause for concern during the year due to breakdowns and because of its age, the manufacturers advised that spare parts would not be available after 1970. It is doubtful whether the present discharge of chlorine into the sewer (at present 0.4 lbs per hour) is sufficient to successfully sterilise the the Cannery effluent which is twice as strong as normal domestic sewage. It is hoped to receive an opinion from the Sewage Works Chemist employed by the Norfolk County Council.

In this predominantly rural area where intensive methods of cultivation are used by farmers, any smells arising in or around the district are invariably attributed to "sewer smells". Much time is spent on investigation of smells and there are many occasions when these have proved fruitless. Examples of successful investigations include a "sewer smell" in a factory where ultimately it was found that a machine had an electric fault which gave off a most unpleasant odour. Another occasion proved that a farmer was spreading manure on agricultural land prior to ploughing.

In certain humid and windless weather conditions, the incoming sewage at the treatment works does give off an unpleasant odour and various ideas have been pursued as to possible treatment, such as masking with chemical sprays, etc., The costs of such schemes are invariably so prohibitive as to rule them out.

The removal of treated sludge direct onto agricultural land was again successful during the year. From mid-July (1969) to early January (1970) this method virtually obviated the use of drying beds and it was pleasing to note that farmers are requesting the delivery of sludge.

~~Except for the rural outskirts of the town, including the two hamlets~~ of Spa Common and White Horse Common, the district ~~is drained~~ by gravity sewer. In the rural outskirts there is a gradual changeover to septic tank drainage, particularly where older property is being acquired and modernised. A weekly collection of night soil by contractor is still maintained mainly at Spa Common and White Horse Common.

The 1968 report by the Council's consulting engineers (Messrs. J.D. and D.M. Watson) on sewage works extensions and further sewerage on the town outskirts will be an integral feature in the new town map which is at present being actively engaged upon by the County Planning Department.

Pollution of Rivers and Streams - no pollution of streams were known to have occurred during the year.

Public Conveniences - the conveniences at The Butchery and the Memorial Park were satisfactorily maintained during the year. Isolated complaints were made as a result of vandalism and the dirty habits of a minority of the public.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

One part-time rodent operator is employed by the Council for the destruction of rats and mice, using methods and materials as approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Regular routine visits were made to all Council properties, particularly the refuse tip and the sewers were inspected for evidence of infestation. All private dwellings were treated free of charge on receipt of complaint and business premises were dealt with on a 'time and material' basis.

The following statistics (as required by the Ministry) show the actual number of infestations which occurred :-

	Type of property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in the district	2,660	63
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	72	-
(b) Number infested by (a) rats	71	-
(b) mice	1	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	336	4
(b) Number infested by (i) rats	19	-
(ii) mice	-	-

A greater number of inspections were made during the year and "block control" treatments accounted for this more thorough approach to the problem of rodent infestation.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

The collection of household refuse was made throughout the whole Urban District by means of one vehicle i.e. an 18/27cu.yd. Karrier Gibson rear loading vehicle which was purchased in 1965. Trade refuse collections were made on Wednesday of each week and refuse (contained in paper sacks) from the Chalet Park was removed weekly during the summer months and fortnightly during the remainder of the year by tractor and trailer.

The quantity and content of refuse has altered considerably over the years and now consists of at least 75% paper and similar packaging materials. With the greater use of domestic heating by oil, electric and gas fired appliances, the quantity of refuse has increased enormously resulting in a greater time required for collection from individual properties. This problem is further enhanced by the growth of housing estates necessitating longer "carries" from the rear of the property to the vehicle.

The Council increased the establishment of collectors by one man to a total of one driver and four collectors, with effect from 1st April, 1969 but despite this, any breakdown of vehicle, bad weather conditions, sickness, etc., necessitated overtime on various occasions to maintain a weekly collection. As all of these employees qualify for the maximum of three weeks holiday per year, there are fifteen weeks in the year when additional labour has to be drawn from other sections of the department.

Surveys have been made as to volume of refuse collected and it is borne out by the result of these surveys how great the increase has been so that naturally the cost of collection has increased proportionately.

I am hopeful that the proposed work study team of the County Council will be able to offer suggestions for making this thankless but most essential service more attractive to employees.

All refuse was disposed of at the Council owned tip which is situated in an isolated rural area. Although no full-time tip attendant is employed, the area was satisfactorily maintained and hired plant has been used when required.

Cemeteries, Park, etc.,

The two cemeteries, the closed churchyard, the War Memorial Park and various open spaces and grassed areas were satisfactorily maintained.

A total of 52 burials took place during the year.

HOUSING

The following statistics indicate work during the year associated with the various aspects of housing :-

A - New Buildings

No. of applications for Planning and/or Building Regulations consent - 218

No. of new houses completed during the year by Local Authority - NIL

No. " " " " " " " " other persons 65

No. of new houses under construction at 31.12.69 :-

(a) by the Local Authority - NIL

(b) by other persons - 19

B - Unfit Properties

No. of unfit dwellings demolished in Clearance Areas - 7
(all previously reported as closed)

C - (1) Improvements - Discretionary Grants

No. of Discretionary Grants applied for - 2

No. of applications approved - 1

No. of applications refused - 1

(2) Improvements - Standard Grants

No. of Standard Grants applied for - 10

No. of applications approved - 10

HOUSING

New Council Development

Although no actual development was commenced during the year, detailed plans were approved for development of land between Bluebell Road and Bacton Road and the first phase consisting of 28 bungalows was expected to be commenced early in 1970.

Improvements

Improvements to Buxton Villas were finalised late in the year. These houses, which were constructed in the early 1920's, are now completely modernised and their external appearance presents an attractive frontage to the Millfield Estate.

Further delays in the proposals for the improvement of the remaining 141 pre-war houses were due to the introduction of new legislation (Housing Act, 1969) and it was necessary to re-submit the application in order to take advantage of the new standards for improvements. It was proposed to commence the first phase of the Millfield Estate, consisting of 63 dwellings, early in 1970 and on completion of these, the second phase of 52 houses would be commenced. The remaining houses at Bluebell Road and White Horse Common would subsequently be dealt with, thus completing the improvement of all the Council's pre-war houses.

Private Development

A total of 65 private dwellings were completed during the year. This shows a drop on the previous year's figure of 76. At the 31st December, 1969 private dwellings were under construction.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

There is one privately owned slaughterhouse . licensed within the district where a total of 412 animals were slaughtered during the year. These consisted of 79 bullocks, 37 sheep and lambs and 296 pigs, all of which were insoected. The agreed days of slaughter are Monday and Thursday, except for public holidays, when amicable agreement is reached as to the times of slaughter.

Three men were licensed by the Council for the slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs.

The following table gives in summarised form, information about the animals killed and the results of the inspections of the carcasses and offal :-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	79	-	-	37	296	-
Number inspcted	79	-	-	37	296	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerici whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	-	-	-	43	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis & Cysticerici	16.45%	-	-	-	14.52%	-
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised & totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

(a) Food Premises

The following types of premises are subject to the above Regulations :-

<u>Type of premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No.complying with Reg.16*</u>	<u>No.to which * Reg.19 applies</u>	<u>No.complying with Reg.19</u>
Bakeries/Cake shops	3	3	3	3
Butchers Shops	5	5	5	5
Fish Shops	4	4	4	4
Cafes, Restaurants and Canteens	10	10	10	10
Grocers and General Stores	13	13	13	13
Licensed premises	11	11	11	11
Total	46	46	46	46

* Reg.16 relates to the provision of wash basins and associated amenities.

* Reg.19 relates to facilities for the washing of food and equipment.

Visits to food premises were made as frequently as possible but due to pressure of other work in the department, it was still not possible to carry out these important duties on a routine basis. It is hoped that the Council will give consideration to an increase in the present establishment in order that these duties under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966. can be carried out regularly and efficiently.

(b) Ice Cream Premises

There are 17 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and a total of 8 samples of ice cream and associated products were submitted for examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

(c) Preserved Food Premises

There are 7 premises registered for the preparation and manufacture of preserved foods.

(d) Unsound Food

All unsound food is dealt with on request and buried on the Council's tip. A total of 2,956 industrial cans of tomato puree were condemned and 209 lbs. of assorted foodstuffs.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses registered with the district.

Clean Air Act, 1960

No major troubles from air pollution occurred in the district during 1969.

With the full co-operation of the Warren Springs Laboratories, the metering unit which had been established at the Council Offices late in 1968, was read daily throughout the year and the readings were transmitted to the laboratory for analysis. This data will be most useful for future comparative analyses if a sulphur dioxide stack is erected at the Bacton Gas Site Terminal.

Late in the year, plans were formulated for the erection of a condensate storage site adjacent to the railway station which is close to the town centre. Much time was spent with the developers of this project in order to ensure that no air pollution would or could occur when this unit becomes operational.

Informal warnings were given during the year to a local industry who were burning waste polyurethane foam but alternative methods of disposal had been arranged by the end of the year.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

With the steady industrial growth in the district, noise arising from industrial operations gave rise to complaints. A great deal of time was spent on this problem and H.M. Factory Inspectorate also carried out investigations and noise level readings in conjunction with this department.

A Noise Nuisance Sub-Committee was formed during September and met members of the management of a large factory where working was carried out throughout a 24 hour day on a shift system. The main problem arose from riveting operations and it was necessary for the firm to keep factory doors open during the summer months which added to the noise problem. Discussions were still taking place at the end of the year.

Similarly, the gradual development of the disused station yard for various industrial purposes gave rise to complaints of noise.

Control of Camping and Moveable Dwellings

One holiday centre is licensed within the district under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. This consists of holiday chalets and a maximum of 85 caravans. The centre was well managed during the year and with its various amenities, provides an ideal development for the many visitors to the area.

A survey made in early August (in conjunction with Norfolk County Council) showed a total of 43 caravans in the district as follows :-

36 holiday static	(Walsham Chalet Park)
2 holiday touring	(" " ")
5 residential	(licensed under the Act)

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

A total of eleven dealers were registered in the district under the provisions of the Act.

Storage of Petroleum Spirit

Twenty six premises were licensed during 1969 for the storage of petroleum spirit and two premises for the storage of carbide of calcium. All of these were visited in order to ensure compliance with the various requirements of the Act.

Animal Boarding Establishments

One licence was issued during 1969 under the provisions of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Inspection (3)	No. of written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	9	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	4	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	4	4	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

There were no notifications of outworkers received during the year.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Table A - registrations and General Inspections

Class of premises (1)	No. of premises newly registered during the year (2)	Total No. of registered premises at end of year (3)	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	1	36	12
Retail Shops	1	49	19
Wholesale Depts. Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establish- ments open to the public, canteens.	-	3	3
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	1

Table B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises :- 74

Table C - Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace (1)	No. of persons employed (2)
Offices	102
Retails Shops	184
Wholesale departments, warehouses	-
Catering establishments open to the public	14
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	2
Total	302
Total Males	114
Total Females	188

Table D - Exemptions

Part I	-	Space (Sec. 5) (2)	NIL
Part II	-	Temperature (Sec.6)	NIL
Part III	-	Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.9)	NIL
Part IV	-	Washing facilities (Sec.10)	NIL

Table E - Prosecutions

NIL

Table F - Inspectors - 2 (Part-time and in conjunction with other duties)

